

Local Work Group development of local EQIP.

Itasca Soil and Water District, **FY09 EQIP**

1. List the local resource concerns that EQIP can address:

Forest Mgt. Target idle/abandoned hay fields; and landowners with forest stewardship or other management plans; and implementation of forest management practices that follow NRCS/Industry guidelines and best management practices.

Water Quality: Target watersheds with impaired waters.

Soil Erosion: Target direct sediment delivery to surface waters.

Grazing-Forages: Water quality and quantity concerns and/or a score lower than 25 on the Pasture Condition Score Sheet (May 2001).

Noxious Weeds: Emphasis state and local noxious weed laws and cost share opportunities to landowners with noxious weed problems.

Wildlife Habitat: Fragmentation and long term population trends of game and non-game species.

2. If applicable, list any geographic regions (i.e. watersheds, townships, etc.) and their respective resource concerns within the District to receive priority:

Watersheds with impaired waters

3. From items 1 & 2 above prioritize the local resource concerns to be addressed with EQIP funding for the district. Describe a minimum of 3 categories of the highest priority applications which you would want to receive funding.

Water Quality/Quantity Concerns

Forest Management Concerns

Soil Erosion Concerns

Grazing Management Concerns

4. Develop a minimum of 3 and maximum of 12 yes/no questions to determine if an application is addressing the high priority concerns described in item 3.

Water Quality/Quantity - The application will install practices to address water quality or water quantity concerns. The application is within a watershed with impaired waters. 15 points

Forest Management – The application will install practices which promote forest health, productivity , sustainability and diversity. 10 points

Grazing Management – The application will install practices that improve pasture condition and address water quality or quantity concerns. 10 points

Soil Erosion – The application will install practices that reduce soil loss to T or reduction of sediment delivery to surface waters. 5 points

The application benefits multiple concerns listed in item number 3. 5 points

5. Assign points to the questions in Item #4 as desired to reflect local priorities. The total points assigned to the questions should range from 35 to 60 points.
6. Submit this worksheet to your respective ASTC(FO). After approval from the state office, the questions will be entered into the Local Issues section of the ranking tool.
7. List any recommended practices to be deleted from the state Conservation Practice Payment Document

The local EQIP program description, cost-share docket changes, and ranking worksheet must be reviewed and approved by the State Conservationist before any EQIP contract is approved and signed.

This document serves as the Local Work Group recommendation for FY 08 EQIP. Attached is a roster of participation in the Local Work Group.

Chair, Local Work Group

Date